

Project Name:

Patrol Vehicles and detainee safety enhancements for Glacier County law enforcement

Recipient:

Glacier County, MT

Address:

512 East Main Cut Bank, MT 59427

Amount Requested:

\$410,045

Project Explanation:

The Glacier County Sheriff's Office and Detention Center works with federal, tribal, state, and local law enforcement agencies in the area. They hold Federal detainees as well as detainees from the City of Cut Bank. The Sheriff's Office works daily with Blackfeet Tribal Law Enforcement Services to provide law enforcement for the County and the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, which recently declared a State of Emergency due to the worsening fentanyl crisis. At the detention center, aging and faulty electronic lock technology has forced the use of physical keys and has negatively impacted response time to detainee medical emergencies. At the county level, the Sheriff's office has been forced to patrol the 3,037 square mile jurisdiction with aging vehicles over rough terrain. The requested funds are planned to be allocated to: Electronic Security Door System (\$130,882.00); Police-equipped 4x4 patrol cruisers (\$279,163.52).

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2601

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Committee
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Glacier County Law Enforcement Patrol Vehicles and Safety Enhancements Project

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Glacier County Law Enforcement Patrol Vehicles and Safety Enhancements Project in Fiscal Year 2024.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Glacier County Sheriff's Office, located at 28 6th Ave S.E., Cut Bank, MT 59427.

The funding would be used for the purchase of an Electronic Security Door System and four Police-equipped 4x4 patrol cruisers. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the Glacier County Sheriff's Office and Detention Center works with federal, Tribal, state, and local law enforcement agencies in the area. They hold Federal detainees as well as detainees from the City of Cut Bank. The Sheriff's Office works daily with Blackfeet Tribal Law Enforcement Services to provide Law Enforcement for the County and the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, which recently declared a State of Emergency due to the worsening fentanyl crisis. At the detention center, aging and faulty electronic lock technology has forced the use of physical keys and has negatively impacted response time to detainee medical emergencies. At the county level, the Sheriff's office has been forced to patrol the 3,037 square mile jurisdiction with aging vehicles over rough terrain.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

Ryan K. Zinke

Ryan Zinke

Member of Congress